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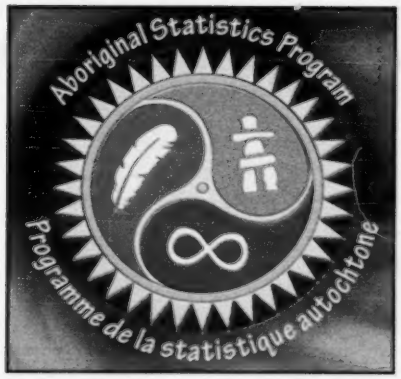
Aboriginal Peoples: Fact Sheets

Aboriginal peoples: Fact sheet for Newfoundland and Labrador



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.. not available for a specific reference period
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^{p} preliminary
^{r} revised
x suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act*
^{E} use with caution
F too unreliable to be published
* significantly different from reference category ($p < 0.05$)

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Aboriginal Peoples: Fact Sheet for Newfoundland and Labrador

About 3% of Aboriginal people in Canada live in Newfoundland and Labrador

- Numbering 35,800, about 3% of the Aboriginal identity population in Canada lived in Newfoundland and Labrador in 2011. They made up 7% of the total population of that province. Newfoundland and Labrador had the largest Aboriginal population of all the Atlantic provinces.

- About one in eight (13%) Aboriginal people in Newfoundland and Labrador resided in Corner Brook, representing 18% of the total population living there.

- Newfoundland and Labrador was home to 19,315 First Nations people, 7,660 Métis, and 6,260 Inuit, with the rest reporting other[1] Aboriginal identities (2,300) or more than one Aboriginal identity (260). From 2006 to 2011, the First Nations population in Newfoundland and Labrador more than doubled, while the Métis population rose by 19%, and the Inuit population rose by 33%.[2]

- An estimated 41% (8,015) of those who identified as First Nations people in 2011 reported being a Treaty or Registered Indian as defined by the *Indian Act*. Most First Nations people in Newfoundland and Labrador lived off reserve; 15% or 2,865 individuals (35% of First Nations people who were Treaty or Registered Indians, or 2,805 individuals) lived on a reserve.

Aboriginal population younger than non-Aboriginal

- Four in ten (39%) Aboriginal people in Newfoundland and Labrador were under the age of 25, compared with 26% of the non-Aboriginal population; 41% of both Métis and Inuit were in this age group, as were 38% of First Nations people (55% of those living on a reserve and 35% of the off-reserve population).

- In 2011, the median age of First Nations people was 34.6; the on-reserve population was younger (22.0) than those living off reserve (37.6). Métis had a median age of 33.1; that of Inuit was 30.7. All three groups were younger than the non-Aboriginal population, whose median age was 44.3.

About the data sources

The 2011 National Household Survey (NHS) and the 2012 Aboriginal Peoples Survey (APS) are the main data sources for this fact sheet. The 2011 NHS collected social and economic data about the Canadian population. The 2012 APS was a national survey of First Nations people **living off reserve**, Métis, and Inuit aged 6 and older. The data are for the **Aboriginal identity population**, which refers to people who reported identifying with at least one Aboriginal group, that is, First Nations, Métis or Inuit, and/or those who reported being a Treaty Indian or a Registered Indian as defined by the *Indian Act* of Canada, and/or those who reported they were members of an Indian band or First Nation. It was possible to report both single and multiple responses to the Aboriginal identity questions on the NHS and the APS. The NHS data in this fact sheet are based on single responses only. The APS data represent a combination of the single and multiple Aboriginal identity populations. Nearly all off-reserve First Nations, Métis, and Inuit respondents reported a single identity.

1. This includes people who reported having Registered Indian status and/or being members of an Indian band or First Nation without reporting an Aboriginal identity.
2. A number of factors should be taken into account when comparing data on Aboriginal people over time. Please refer to the *Aboriginal Peoples Reference Guide, National Household Survey, 2011*, Catalogue no. 99-011-X2011006 and the *Aboriginal Peoples Technical Report*, Catalogue no. 99-011-X.

Two-thirds of Aboriginal children live with both parents

- In Newfoundland and Labrador, 60% of First Nations children aged 14 and younger lived in a family with both their parents in 2011, as did 77% of Métis children and 63% of Inuit children. The corresponding percentage for non-Aboriginal children was close to 71%. In addition, 28% of First Nations children, 18% of Métis children and 22% of Inuit and non-Aboriginal children lived in a lone-parent family.

- In 2011, 2% of Aboriginal children aged 14 and younger were in foster care; at 4%, the percentage was highest for Inuit children and First Nations children living on reserve. Moreover, of all Newfoundland and Labrador children in foster care in 2011, 28% were Aboriginal children, over half of whom (53%) were First Nations children.

Table 1

Percentage distribution of children aged 14 and under by living arrangement, by selected Aboriginal identity group and area of residence, Newfoundland and Labrador, 2011

	Total Aboriginal identity population	First Nations single identity			Métis single identity	Inuit single identity	Non-Aboriginal identity population
		Total	On reserve	Off reserve			
	percent						
Children of both parents[1]	64.8	59.7	50.7	62.7	76.6	63.5	70.7
Stepchildren	5.7	5.7	9.4	4.5	3.9	8.9	5.5
Children of lone parent	24.5	27.5	27.6	27.5	18.4	22.2	22.4
Grandchildren in skip-generation family	2.7	4.5	5.9	3.9	1.1	0.6	0.7
Foster children	1.8	1.9	3.9	1.2	0.0	4.1	0.6
Children living with other relatives[2]	0.4	0.7	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2

1. Includes children in a two-parent family where there may also be stepsiblings or half-siblings present. Also includes children in a two-parent family for whom it cannot be determined if they are stepchildren.

2. Non-relatives may be present. Excludes foster children.

Source: Statistics Canada, National Household Survey, 2011.

On-reserve First Nations people most likely to live in crowded homes

- In 2011, 31% of First Nations people living on a reserve in Newfoundland and Labrador lived in crowded homes, that is, with more than one person per room. Among both off-reserve First Nations people and Métis, the percentage was 1%, and among Inuit, 10%. The comparable figure for the non-Aboriginal population was 1%.

- An estimated 20% of Inuit and 19% of on-reserve First Nations people lived in homes in need of major repairs, as did 13% of off-reserve First Nation people and Métis.

Table 2

Percentages living in crowded homes and homes in need of major repairs, by selected Aboriginal identity group and area of residence, Newfoundland and Labrador, 2011

	Total Aboriginal identity population	First Nations single identity			Métis single identity	Inuit single identity	Non-Aboriginal identity population
		Total	On reserve	Off reserve			
	percent						
Crowding[1]	5.2	5.7	30.7	1.3	1.0	9.5	1.0
Home in need of major[2] repairs	14.1	14.0	19.2	13.1	12.5	19.8	7.4

1. More than one person per room.

2. For example, dwellings with defective plumbing or electrical wiring and dwellings needing structural repairs to walls, floors or ceilings.

Source: Statistics Canada, National Household Survey, 2011.

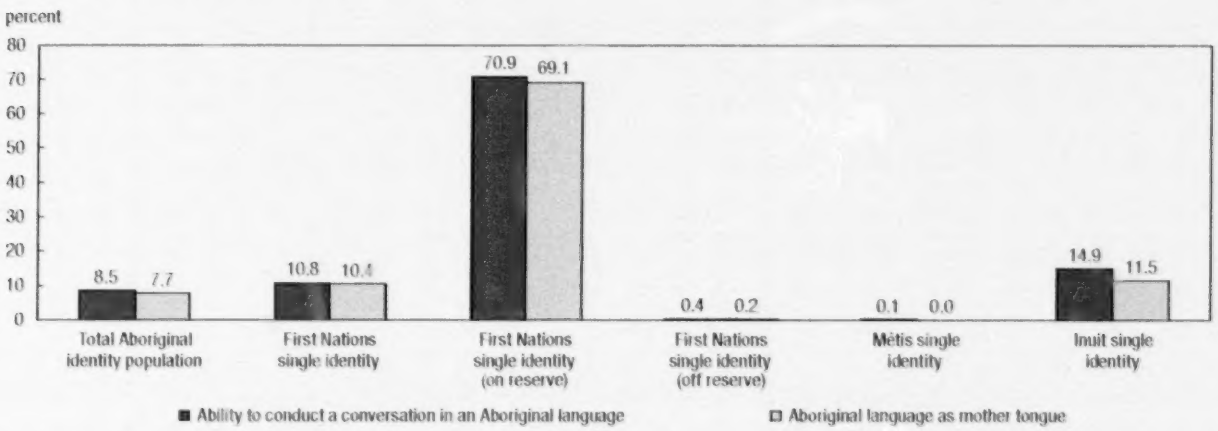
Seven in ten on-reserve First Nations people speak an Aboriginal language

- Seven in ten First Nations people living on a reserve in Newfoundland and Labrador reported an Aboriginal mother tongue (69%) and the ability to conduct a conversation in an Aboriginal language (71%). The Aboriginal language most commonly spoken by First Nations people was Innu/Montagnais.

- Among Inuit, 12% had an Aboriginal mother tongue while 15% reported the ability to converse in an Aboriginal language. Inuktitut was the Aboriginal language most commonly spoken by Inuit.[3]

- Based on results of the Aboriginal Peoples Survey,[4] 62% of off-reserve First Nations people, 42% of Métis and 74% of Inuit aged 6 and older reported that speaking and understanding an Aboriginal language was important to them.

Chart 1
Ability to converse in an Aboriginal language and Aboriginal language as mother tongue, by selected Aboriginal identity group and area of residence, Newfoundland and Labrador, 2011



Source: Statistics Canada, National Household Survey, 2011.

More than half have postsecondary qualifications

- In 2011, 55% of Aboriginal people aged 25 to 64 in Newfoundland and Labrador had a certificate, diploma or degree from a trade school, college or university: 55% of First Nations people, 59% of Métis and 54% of Inuit. The comparable percentage for their non-Aboriginal counterparts was 59%.

- There was a difference in the proportion of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people with "no certificate, diploma or degree". In 2011, 29% of First Nations people aged 25 to 64, 25% of Métis and 29% of Inuit did not have a certificate, diploma or degree. The corresponding percentage for the non-Aboriginal population was 20%.

3. Some characteristics for Métis are not included as the data are too unreliable to be published.
4. The target population of the 2012 Aboriginal Peoples Survey (APS) excluded people living on Indian reserves and in Indian settlements in the provinces and in selected First Nations communities in the territories.

Table 3
Highest level of educational attainment of population aged 25 to 64, by selected Aboriginal identity group and area of residence, Newfoundland and Labrador, 2011

	Total Aboriginal identity population	First Nations single identity			Métis single identity	Inuit single identity	Non-Aboriginal identity population
		Total	On reserve	Off reserve			
	percent						
No certificate, diploma or degree	27.5	28.6	55.8	24.8	25.0	28.9	19.8
High school diploma or equivalent	17.0	16.8	10.8	17.5	15.9	17.2	21.2
Postsecondary certificate, diploma or degree	55.5	54.8	32.9	57.6	59.0	53.8	59.0
Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma	15.6	13.6	13.8	13.5	18.9	17.6	15.1
College, CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma	24.8	25.9	14.6	27.3	26.6	20.7	23.9
University certificate or diploma below bachelor level[1]	2.6	2.8	1.3	2.9	1.5	2.7	3.2
University certificate, diploma or degree at bachelor level or above	12.5	12.5	2.9	13.7	12.2	12.9	16.7

1. Comparisons with other data sources suggest that the category "University certificate or diploma below bachelor level" was over reported in the National Household Survey (NHS). The results for this category should be interpreted with caution. For more information on concepts and data quality, refer to the NHS reference guides and *Education Reference Guide* on the Statistics Canada website.
Source: Statistics Canada, National Household Survey, 2011.

Employment rates and median total income increase with education

- In 2011, the employment rates of First Nations people, Métis and Inuit aged 25 to 64 in Newfoundland and Labrador who did not have a certificate, diploma or degree were 37.1%, 31.8% and 29.6% respectively. Employment rates were higher for those with further education. For example, among those with postsecondary credentials, the employment rate of First Nations people was 67.7%, while that of Métis was 76.3% and that of Inuit, 73.6%.

Table 4
Employment rate of population aged 25 to 64, by highest level of educational attainment, selected Aboriginal identity group and area of residence, Newfoundland and Labrador, 2011

	Total Aboriginal identity population	First Nations single identity			Métis single identity	Inuit single identity	Non-Aboriginal identity population
		Total	On reserve	Off reserve			
	employment rate (percent)						
Total	**58.0**	**56.2**	**58.8**	**55.8**	**61.2**	**57.9**	**64.3**
No certificate, diploma or degree	34.8	37.1	53.7	32.2	31.8	29.6	40.2
High school diploma or equivalent	52.6	51.0	63.0	50.3	52.0	55.9	58.9
Postsecondary certificate, diploma or degree	71.2	67.7	67.1	67.7	76.3	73.6	74.4

Source: Statistics Canada, National Household Survey, 2011.

- Median total income[5] was also higher for those with higher education levels. Among First Nations people aged 25 to 64, median total income (rounded to the nearest $1,000) ranged from $17,000 for those with no certificate, diploma or degree to $33,000 for those with postsecondary credentials. The range for Métis was from $23,000 to $42,000, and for Inuit, from $16,000 to $40,000.

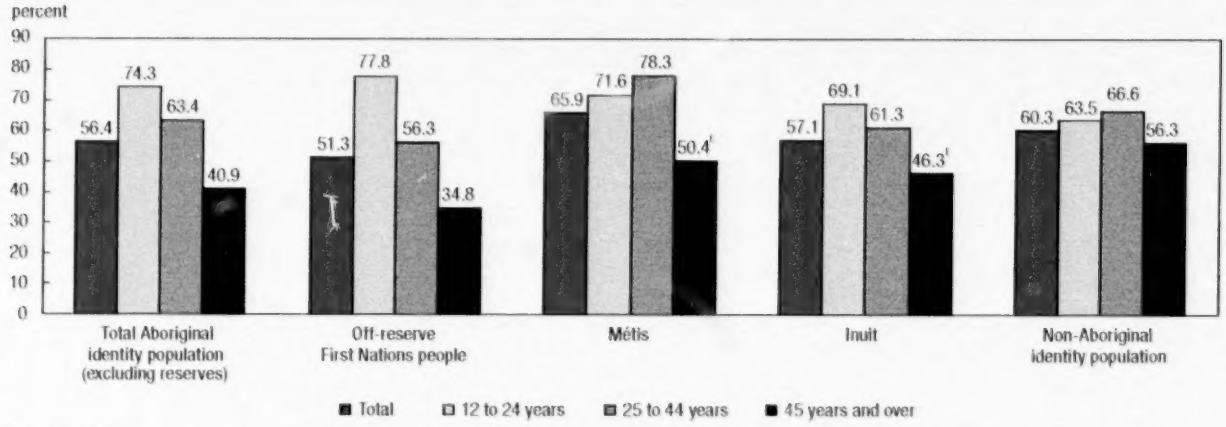
Half rated their health as excellent or very good

- Based on results of the Aboriginal Peoples Survey, more than half (56%) the Aboriginal population aged 12 and older in Newfoundland and Labrador rated their health as excellent or very good in 2012: 51% of First Nations people living off reserve, 66% of Métis, and 57% of Inuit.

5. Total income includes income from all sources, including employment income, income from government programs, pension income, investment income and any other money income. The calculation includes population with income and without income (with an income of zero).

- Self-reported health varied much more by age group among off-reserve First Nations people, Métis and Inuit than among the non-Aboriginal population.[6] For example, at ages 12 to 24, 78% of off-reserve First Nations people rated their health as excellent or very good; by age 45 or older, the figure was 35%. The corresponding percentages for non-Aboriginal people were 64% and 56%.

Chart 2
Excellent or very good self-rated overall health of population aged 12 and over, by selected Aboriginal identity group and age group, Newfoundland and Labrador, 2012



! use with caution
Sources: Statistics Canada, Aboriginal Peoples Survey, 2012; and Canadian Community Health Survey, 2012.

- The majority (66% of off-reserve First Nations people, 79% of Métis and 67% of Inuit) of those aged 18 and older reported excellent or very good mental health.[7]

- Six in ten (60%) off-reserve First Nations people, half of Métis (53%) and 45% of Inuit aged 12 and older reported that they had been diagnosed with at least one chronic condition. The corresponding percentage for the non-Aboriginal population was 62%.

- Among Aboriginal people, commonly reported conditions included high blood pressure (20%), arthritis excluding fibromyalgia (19%), and asthma (13%). In addition, 6%[E] reported being diagnosed with an anxiety disorder and 5%[E] reported a mood disorder.

Table 5
Excellent or very good self-rated mental health of population aged 18 and over, by selected Aboriginal identity group and age group, Newfoundland and Labrador, 2012

	Total Aboriginal identity population (excluding reserves)	Off-reserve First Nations people	Métis	Inuit	Non-Aboriginal identity population
	percent				
Total	**68.5**	**65.8**	**78.5**	**66.6**	**75.4**
18 to 24	75.5	76.4	78.9	68.9	71.4
25 to 44	74.6	77.7	76.7	60.9	78.6
45 and over	62.8	56.7	79.9	70.0	74.5

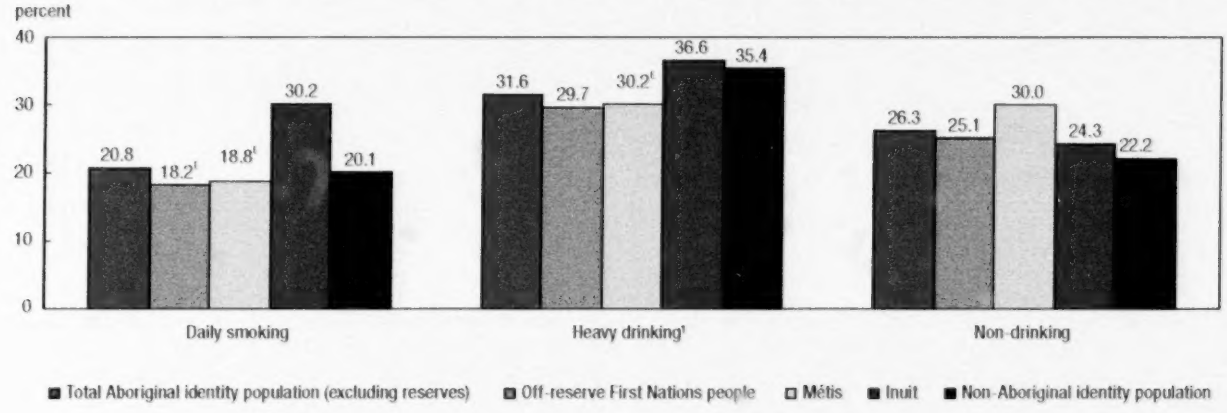
Sources: Statistics Canada, Aboriginal Peoples Survey, 2012; and Canadian Community Health Survey, 2012.

6. Health data for the non-Aboriginal population were drawn from the 2012 Canadian Community Health Survey.
7. Questions on self-rated mental health were only asked of respondents who were providing answers to the survey directly, on their own behalf (i.e., data are not available when questionnaires were completed by proxy interview).

Three in ten Inuit smoked daily

- In 2012, 18%[E] of off-reserve First Nations people aged 12 and older in Newfoundland and Labrador reported that they smoked daily, as did 19%[E] of Métis and 30% of Inuit. The comparable percentage for the non-Aboriginal population was 20%.

Chart 3
Selected health behaviours of population aged 12 and over, by selected Aboriginal identity group, Newfoundland and Labrador, 2012



E use with caution
1. Heavy drinking refers to the consumption of five or more drinks on one occasion at least once a month in the 12 months preceding the survey.
Sources: Statistics Canada, Aboriginal Peoples Survey, 2012; and Canadian Community Health Survey, 2012.

- For those aged 12 or older, the prevalence of heavy drinking (five or more drinks on one occasion at least once a month in the 12 months preceding the survey) was 30% for off-reserve First Nations people, 30%[E] for Métis, and 37% for Inuit. This compared with 35% for non-Aboriginal people.

- At the same time, 25% of off-reserve First Nations people, 30% of Métis and 24% of Inuit were non-drinkers (consumed no alcohol in the 12 months preceding the survey). The percentage for the non-Aboriginal population was 22%.

Table 6
Selected health behaviours of population aged 12 and over, by selected Aboriginal identity group and age group, Newfoundland and Labrador, 2012

	Total Aboriginal identity population (excluding reserves)	Non-Aboriginal identity population
	percent	
12 to 24		
Daily smoking	16.5E	17.5E
Heavy drinking1	47.1	46.2
Non-drinking	35.2	30.6
25 to 44		
Daily smoking	25.2	24.6
Heavy drinking	41.3	46.5
Non-drinking	18.6E	12.0E
45 and over		
Daily smoking	20.5E	18.7
Heavy drinking	16.4E	26.2
Non-drinking	26.2	24.6

E use with caution
1. Heavy drinking refers to the consumption of five or more drinks on one occasion at least once a month in the 12 months preceding the survey.
Sources: Statistics Canada, Aboriginal Peoples Survey, 2012; and Canadian Community Health Survey, 2012.